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UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

Other entities and programmes

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

SUMMARY

The present addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical cooperation activities provides an overview of the work of organizational entities (other than that of the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat) which engage in technical cooperation activities. The overview, provided by the regional commissions, the Centre for Human Rights, the United Nations Office at Vienna, the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Environment Programme, covers activities undertaken by these entities in 1991.

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I. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) continued to carry out a programme of technical cooperation aimed at furthering the economic and social development of the countries of the region.

2. In 1991, resources from the United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation supported the services of regional advisers, assisted the Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOCs) and financed regional and subregional activities in economic cooperation, public administration and finance, social development, statistics, transport and communications, tourism and energy.

3. As in the previous years, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has continued to be ECA's major source of funds for technical cooperation activities. UNDP increased its contribution in support of regional and subregional projects from $10.6 million in 1990 to $15.3 million in 1991.

4. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) allotted $3.8 million in 1991 in support of regional population activities executed by ECA.

5. The United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) contributed about $588,000 for activities in agriculture, education, industry and economic integration.

6. Bilateral donors and Governments provided a total of $1.3 million in support of ECA activities in the region.

II. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

7. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) has provided assistance to programmes designed to promote the economic reconstruction of Europe in response to revolutionary changes which have taken place recently in the countries of central and eastern Europe. With a view to developing urgent practical measures to assist the countries in transition, ECE has promoted a programme of workshops on questions relating to transition which focus on market adaptation, privatization, restructuring of industry, foreign investment, housing policies, etc.

8. ECE has continued to execute and initiate a number of technical cooperation activities in 1991, with the financial support of UNDP and UNFPA, in the sectors of environmental protection, energy, population, science and technology, and trade and transport. These activities included a project entitled "Energy Efficiency 2000", designed to close the energy-efficiency gap between the industries of the former east European nations and the West; projects on Solar Applications and Energy Efficiency in Building Design and Town Planning and on low-calorie solid fuels technology; and the second phase of the ECE/UNDP Statistical Computing Project (SCP-2). At the request of the

Steering Committee of the SCP-2, a draft regional transition project on applied statistical computing in central and east European countries, dealing with the adaptation of statistical services to market-economy conditions, was elaborated and forwarded to UNDP for inclusion in the Fifth UNDP Programming Cycle. Also, in the population field, ECE implemented, in cooperation with UNFPA, projects on economic and social consequences of changing population structures; promotion of fertility and family surveys in developing ECE countries; and integration of population policies and socio-economic policies.

9. At its second regular session in July 1991 the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted resolution 1991/76 on interregional cooperation in the area of trade facilitation, and, in particular, the phased application of EDIFACT (Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport), wherever appropriate. The Council requested the regional commissions, jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), to elaborate specific projects in this field and to present them to bilateral donors and funding organizations. In addition, the Council invited the UNDP and other funding organizations to consider favourably the projects to be submitted by the regional commissions.

10. In the transport sector, the ECE Regional Transport Adviser has carried out a series of missions to the countries in transition in central and eastern Europe and to other countries of the region to provide advice and assistance in the development of transport programmes and infrastructure.

11. Further progress was made in establishing the technical parameters for the planning, design and construction of the Trans-European Motorway (TEM) network. Also, ECE has continued preparatory work for the new Trans-European North-South Railway project regarding the development of the rail network and related infrastructure questions.

12. With a view to creating a data bank to support traffic flow analyses and forecasting in Europe, ECE and UNDP are involved in the establishment of a user-oriented transport information system.

13. In March 1991, a UNDP/ECE project document on International Transport Development: Mediterranean, Europe and Middle East was distributed to the competent authorities of the countries concerned for their acceptance.

III. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

14. During 1991, the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), carried out a wide range of activities directly related to the provision of technical cooperation and advisory services to the countries of the region, within the framework of the ECLAC's programme of work as approved by member countries at the twenty-third session of the Commission (Caracas, May 1990). Technical cooperation during the reporting year continued to be oriented towards the strengthening of the performance of public sector development agencies. The linkages of the latter with

non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other agents in the private sector, were underlined as a general orientation of ECLAC's technical cooperation activities.

15. The several components of the ECLAC system (the ECLAC secretariat proper, the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and the Latin American Demographic Center (CELADE)), carried out 169 assistance missions, in close coordination with governmental authorities concerned and the UNDP resident coordinators. With regard to training, ILPES organized international and national courses in the field of socio-economic development planning and policy coordination, as well as training workshops, with a total registration of 1,186 professionals of the region. ILPES awarded 125 full fellowships funded mainly by Italy, Spain, Germany, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

16. As in previous years, CELADE continued its specialized training activities in population and demography. Support was provided to 53 fellows who attended population and development courses. Funding for these activities came from Canada, the Netherlands and UNFPA.

17. The various subregional offices of ECLAC continued their numerous activities in the specific geographical areas under their responsibility. The subregional office in Mexico City gave continuous support to institutional cooperation aimed at fostering the subregional integration process in Central America. The subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, cooperated closely with the Caribbean community and continued to discharge its duties as technical secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC). The Montevideo office provided technical backstopping to the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) and was actively engaged in the provision of advisory services to government agencies. The Buenos Aires and Brasilia offices continued their support to integration initiatives in their host countries.

18. Collaboration of the ECLAC system with the secretariat of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) was extended over a wide range of subjects of mutual concern. In particular, ECLAC collaborated closely with SELA-sponsored initiatives to increase consultation and coordination among regional organizations on a continuous basis.

19. As in previous years, ECLAC received contributions from UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and UNFPA. A joint division with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is noteworthy for its work. Voluntary contributions continued to be received from donor countries.

IV. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

20. During 1991, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) received substantial contributions from UNDP and UNFPA

for technical cooperation activities. Significant voluntary contributions were also received from traditional donor countries to implement activities of mutual concern and within the framework of ESCAP's work programme.

21. ESCAP's technical cooperation activities continued to accord special attention to the least developed countries and the Pacific island developing countries. During 1991, ESCAP's regional advisers rendered technical and advisory services to 28 countries in the Asia and Pacific region through 76 missions. Similarly, UNFPA-financed advisers on population censuses and surveys, data preparation and processing of census and surveys, population statistics, population policies and population and development rendered services to 24 countries through 57 missions. Advisory services on, among others, policy coordination for economic restructuring, development policies for raw materials and commodities, environmental management, national accounts, trade promotion and tourism, and social development, were rendered by advisers located at ESCAP.

22. For the island developing countries in the Pacific, short-term advisory services continued to be provided by the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC) at Port Vila, Vanuatu, in social development, development economics and finance, physical planning and port development. In addition, with UNDP financing and in collaboration with the South Pacific Commission (SPC) and the forum secretariat, EPOC also dispatched quick action consultancy missions to island developing countries.

23. Technical cooperation projects funded by UNDP and bilateral donors addressed important questions pertaining to poverty alleviation; environmentally sound and sustainable development; human resources development and integration of women in development; energy and natural resources including energy planning, new and renewable sources of energy, remote sensing and its applications; international trade and tourism; and transport and communications including port development, inland water transport, highways and rural road infrastructure and railways.

24. UNFPA continued its institutional support to ESCAP and thereby enabled ESCAP to further enhance its technical assistance to and training for national population centres. Funds were also provided for research activities, management information systems, family planning and training in the use of microcomputers for population analysis.

25. ESCAP continued to cooperate closely with FAO in research and development of food legumes and coarse grains in the Asian tropics and subtropics and with FAO and UNIDO in activities within the framework of the project for the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific. It also cooperated with UNESCO and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in the area of human resources development, with the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) on natural disaster reduction in the region, and with UNCTAD in the field of international trade.

26. In collaboration with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the supplementary fund of the ESCAP/Technical Cooperation for

Developing Countries (TCDC) promoted 29 operational TCDC activities in the fields of agriculture (including fisheries), industry, natural resources development, population, social development, science and technology, international trade, and transport.

V. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

27. During the period under review, the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), pertaining to projects, advisory services and related activities, were severely disrupted by the Gulf crisis. Consequently, all projects in progress and in the pipeline were rescheduled.

28. During much of the reporting period, the technical cooperation activities of the Commission have, therefore, been limited essentially to the rendering of regional advisory services, an overview of which is given below. Since its regrouping in Amman in August 1991 the Commission has gradually resumed many of its traditional activities and continues to do so.

29. Advisory services in the area of data processing were rendered to Egypt, Jordan, Oman, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

30. In industrial development, assistance was provided to Jordan and United Arab Emirates. In industrial and mechanical engineering, a joint UNIDO-ESCWA mission was carried out in Jordan and Syria.

31. In economic statistics, assistance was provided to Jordan, Oman, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

32. In energy, assistance was extended to Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Yemen regarding water resources.

33. In science and technology, advice was provided to Iraq, Oman and Yemen. In transport and communications, assistance was rendered to Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

34. In human resources development, advice was provided to Iraq, Jordan and Yemen. In demography, advice was provided to Jordan, United Arab Emirates and Yemen; and in population statistics, advice was provided to Jordan, Oman, Palestine, Syria and Yemen.

35. In environment, assistance was extended to Egypt, Jordan and Oman.

VI. CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

36. The Centre for Human Rights, within its programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights, provides Governments, at their request, with various forms of assistance ranging from the drafting of new

democratic constitutions to the establishment of national human rights infrastructures; from providing expert advice in connection with the holding of free and fair elections or with the elaboration of democratic legislation to training of administrators of justice and other relevant sectors of society; from offering especially tailored human rights fellowships to qualified nationals to translating and printing into local languages international human rights instruments.

37. From January 1991 to this day, the Centre has received requests for assistance from over 50 governments from all parts of the world.

38. In 1988, the Voluntary Fund for Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights was established in order to supplement resources existing within the regular budget for this purpose. This Fund has provided most of the resources used in connection with technical cooperation programmes. (Since its establishment, the Fund has received donations amounting to about $4.0 million). Additional funding and human resources are necessary, however, to cope with the unprecedented demand for assistance in human rights emerging over the past several months.

39. The resources of the Fund are allocated primarily to finance activities aimed at building up or strengthening national and regional infrastructures for the promotion and protection of human rights. Training and other supportive activities continue to be used to provide the necessary basic information and knowledge needed in the implementation of human rights norms.

40. An advisory group within the Centre utilizes standard UNDP procedures for project formulation, implementation, evaluation and reporting. The group is in close contact with the donor community, as well as with other interested countries.

41. Over the past four years, the Centre has inter alia assisted Romania and Albania in connection with their new elections; has provided expert advice for the new Constitutions in Bulgaria, Romania and Mongolia; has assisted in the establishment of centres for human rights and democracy in Tunis (for the Arab countries) and in Banjul (for Africa); continues to assist the Commission for Human and People's Rights of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), as well as other national commissions dealing with human rights matters. The Centre has organized about 30 training courses and workshops in all regions of the world on various aspects of human rights at the national and regional level and, in the process, has trained over 3,000 government officials and other administrators of justice.

42. In 1991, resources under the regular budget financed activities of the policy-making bodies, including the organization of seminars and workshops, as well as the provision of fellowships.

43. Field missions were carried out, by independent experts appointed by the Commission on Human Rights, in Guatemala, Haiti and Equatorial Guinea.

44. In 1991, training courses/workshops were organized under the voluntary fund in Indonesia, Bulgaria, Italy, Portugal, Venezuela, Brazil, Egypt, Switzerland, Romania, France, Mongolia and Chile. At the request of governments, the Centre has, with resources from the Fund, implemented technical cooperation projects in Albania, Bulgaria, Colombia, Guinea, Lesotho, Mongolia, Paraguay, Poland, Romania, Uruguay and Zambia. The services of 19 experts were maintained for special cooperation projects financed under the voluntary fund to Albania, Equatorial Guinea, Lesotho, Mongolia, Romania and the OAU's African Commission. Assistance was also provided by experts to the Government of Namibia.

VII. UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT VIENNA

45. In its capacity as nucleus for social policy and development, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA) of the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV) provided on request advice on the formulation and evaluation of the social aspects of national development plans and strategies covering the last decade of the twentieth century and to the year 2000. Governments are apparently directing increased policy-level concern with a social perspective on development. Current concerns of public policy may best be summarized as promotion of a "society for all", in which five elements may be distinguished: (a) access to income and wealth that will ensure essential needs; (b) attainment of personal and economic security; (c) promotion of networks among both public and private sectors for planning and management of essential services, and for personal development; (d) access for all to essential public infrastructure; and (e) full and effective participation on the basis of equality as development agents and beneficiaries.

46. UNOV/CSDHA's activities to strengthen and improve national capacities for a social perspective on development include: (a) collection, analysis and interpretation of data on social issues and trends that call for modification or readjustment of current policies; (b) review and assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of alternative public interventions in achieving the social objectives of development; (c) establishment and development of information systems and procedures to support social assessments, monitoring and evaluation; (d) organization and conduct of analyses required to develop new international norms and standards; (e) promoting networks and linkages among centres and institutions concerned with social issues and trends; and (f) providing on request substantive support to technical cooperation activities and for improved project cycle management.

47. With regard to advancement of women, special attention was directed to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women: advice and assistance were provided on request on (a) modification of national laws so that Governments which had not already done so might ratify the Convention and (b) preparation of initial reports by Governments which had ratified or acceded to the Convention. Advice and assistance were also provided in the area of women in development and the role of national machinery. Technical exchanges organized during the period under review

include: (a) training seminar on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Cook Islands, 18-21 March 1991): to assist Governments of the Pacific region which had not ratified the Convention or had still to produce their initial report under the provisions of the Convention and (b) an expert group meeting on integration of women in development (Vienna, 9-11 December 1991): to analyse and assess women-in-development programmes and policies with a view to achieving more coordinated and effective assistance.

48. During 1991, the UNOV/CSDHA-administered trust funds in the fields of ageing, disabled persons and youth provided grants totalling $373,700 to 30 catalytic and innovative projects.

49. However, in spite of this solid record of achievements, contributions to the funds are declining and their operational reserves are nearly depleted. In response, UNOV/CSDHA have sought to mobilize extrabudgetary resources from both Governments and the private sector. The Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND) continues to be the single largest source of funds for the UNOV/CSDHA-administered Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons. Germany also provided generous earmarked grants for country-level action in the field of ageing and development in both Africa and Asia. In addition, non-governmental resources are co-financing the activities of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Promotion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, which is attached to UNOV. The Banyan Fund aims to mobilize public and private resources for ageing and development activities within the framework of the International Plan of Action on Ageing.

VIII. DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS

50. Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 45/179, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) was established in March 1991 to respond to the international community's increasing concern over the growing threat of drug abuse and illegal trafficking in the world. The aim was to ensure a more comprehensive approach to international drug control and a more efficient structure to enable the United Nations to play a central role in countering this threat. The new Programme was set up integrating the former Division of Narcotic Drugs, the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control.

51. Among recent innovations in the Programme's operational activities is the promotion of a subregional strategy involving joint operations among neighbouring countries. In addition, the application of a decentralized training programme, based on an increased use of existing training facilities, began in 1991. UNDCP continues to rely on its network of 15 field offices in order to supervise and monitor its technical cooperation projects.

52. With a programme budget for technical cooperation activities in 1991 amounting to $71.2 million, UNDCP provided assistance to 70 countries in Latin

America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East, eastern Europe and Africa through 150 national, regional and global level projects in all sectors of drug control. UNDCP assistance includes integrated rural development projects designed to increase public awareness and preventive education projects designed to promote anti-drug campaigns; health and rehabilitation projects designed to improve the treatment of drug-dependent persons; and assistance to Governments to control the illicit traffic. In relation to its normative function, UNDCP also provided legal advice and assistance to Governments for the formulation and application of national legislation and regulations on drug control and assists States in taking steps to become parties to the international drug control conventions.

IX. OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

53. The Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat advises and assists United Nations bodies and units at Headquarters and in the field, including DTCD, UNDP and the related funds and offices on matters pertaining to the establishment, application and interpretation of legal instruments and rules relating to cooperation programmes. The work, which is of a continuing nature, includes drafting and interpreting constitutive instruments, terms of reference as well as financial and other regulations, rules and directives of United Nations bodies; drafting, interpreting and advising on basic assistance agreements, loan agreements, project documents, trust fund arrangements, cost-sharing agreements, management services agreements and contracts with Governments, intergovernmental organizations, executing agencies and private parties; provision of legal advice and assistance in negotiating and settling legal disputes; and advising on administrative, personnel, financial and contractual questions derived from technical cooperation activities; as well as problems involving United Nations privileges and immunities.

54. The Office of Legal Affairs also performs various activities connected with the goals of the United Nations programme of assistance in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, which fall also within the objectives of the United Nations Decade of International Law. The Office received and assigned interns to participate in tasks related to some of its projects, at no financial cost to the Organization. It participated in the United Nations/United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Fellowship Programme in international law, financed from the regular budget and from voluntary contributions from States. A total of 18 fellowships were awarded in 1990 and another 18 in 1991. The Office also cooperated in programmes of training and assistance sponsored by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and participated, with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea, in activities connected with the award of the fifth Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, which is financed from a trust fund of voluntary contributions.

X. UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

55. The technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) (Habitat) are focused on assisting Governments in the formulation of policies and strategies to create a self-reliant human settlements management capacity at both national and local levels. In direct response to increasing demand from developing country Governments, UNCHS (Habitat) technical cooperation activities continued to expand during 1991, particularly in the provision of support to government policy makers in strengthening human settlements management within the framework of the national development planning process.

56. During 1991, UNCHS supported the implementation of 285 technical cooperation programmes and projects in 100 countries, of which 87 projects were in least developed countries (LDCs). The total fund budgeted in 1991, as of the end of the third quarter, was $44 million, which reflects the fact that the Centre's operational activities have expanded more than twofold over the last five years.

57. The technical cooperation activities of UNCHS also continued to be very effectively leveraged within the framework of national investment programming. UNDP's latest annual report on 1990 investment commitments related to UNDP-assisted projects (breakdown by executing agency) clearly illustrates this point: the 1990 investment commitments resulting from UNCHS-executed projects were over $3 billion. Accordingly, while UNCHS served as executing agency for less than 2 per cent of the indicative planning figures (IPFs) of UNDP resources, UNCHS executed projects resulted in nearly 25 per cent of the total investment commitments related to all UNDP-assisted projects in 1990.

58. In an increasing number of cases, UNCHS is aiding both the design and implementation of nationally executed projects. Moreover, out of a total of over 500 project personnel fielded during 1991, over 67 per cent were national experts and consultants. Similarly, according to the latest available official statistics on the operational activities of the United Nations system, over 58 per cent of the total procurement of UNCHS for 1990 was from developing countries (A/46/206/Add.4).

59. Assisting Governments in their preparations for UNDP's fifth programming cycle, UNCHS continued during 1991 to expand its Human Settlements Sector Analysis and Needs Assessment Programme to provide a sound basis for shifting to a country-based programme approach. This programme is financed from UNDP sectoral support funds and extrabudgetary resources, mobilizing multidisciplinary teams of national and international experts. As of the end of the third quarter of 1991, UNCHS had supported these sector analysis and needs assessment exercises in 20 countries including the following: Cameroon, Namibia, Sao Tome and Principe, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Sierra Leone, Syria, Yemen, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Bolivia and Venezuela.

60. Considered one of the most important global technical cooperation initiatives of UNCHS is the Urban Management Programme (UMP) which was

initiated five years ago with UNDP and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and now benefits from contributions by a large number of bilateral donors. The UMP was designed to strengthen the contribution that cities and towns in developing countries make towards economic growth, social development and the alleviation of poverty. Building on the achievements of the first phase of the UMP (1986-1991), UNCHS has worked closely with its UMP partners in the development of a greatly expanded programme of capacity-building for urban management in the 1990s. The UMP assists developing countries in building capacity to develop and implement appropriate policies for municipal finance and administration, land management, infrastructure management, urban environmental management and the alleviation of urban poverty.

61. The Sustainable Cities Programme (SCP) was launched by UNCHS in 1990 as a global technical cooperation programme to support municipal authorities world wide in improving their environmental planning and management capacity. As the operational arm of the UMP's urban environmental component and growing out of an earlier collaborative programme with UNEP, the SCP is also serving already as an effective vehicle for improved cooperation among international, national and local authorities and across sectoral responsibilities in addressing critical urban environmental issues. In 1991, SCP operational activities were initiated in the United Republic of Tanzania, Ghana, Egypt, Poland, Chile, Indonesia and India, and activities were being programmed in six other cities world wide.

XI. UNITED NATIONS CENTRE ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

62. Pursuant to the guidelines established for technical cooperation in the 1990s, the Centre on Transnational Corporations continued efforts initiated in 1990 to focus its advisory and training services on economic reform, human resources development, environment and national resource management and private sector development. An increasing number of countries which have liberalized their policies towards foreign direct investments and transnational corporations have sought advisory assistance not only in the overall legislative framework but also in the formulation and review of laws, policies and guidelines of specific sectors, primarily mining and petroleum. Technical assistance provided during the period under review for those newly opened-door economies have included activities in privatization efforts, establishment of export processing zones, and others. Of significance in this area are assistance being provided to countries in eastern Europe, including the former USSR. It is also important to note that the Centre, following a request from the African National Congress (ANC), was involved in 1991 in assisting in their formulation of investment policies and an investment code. Work has also begun in developing the terms of reference of a series of policy and sector studies that have been requested by the ANC.

63. Advisory assistance continued to be provided in the national resource-based sectors, particularly in the hard-rock and petroleum industries. In 1991, the Centre was also involved in formulating

environmental legislation in the mining sector and petroleum sector for a number of Latin American and Caribbean countries, as well as for a Pacific island country and an African country. A Latin American country also received advisory assistance in formulating legislation on the environment for harmonization with a subregional free trade area.

64. In 1991, a significant number of advisory assistance in privatizing public enterprises in developing countries were undertaken by the Centre, including transfer of ownership and control of hotels, shipping operations and infrastructure projects, like electricity, to private companies.

65. The Centre's work in support of human resources development and private sector development were carried out through its training activities. Additional efforts were made to include private sector officials in training workshops. Workshops were held in the petroleum, biotechnology, financial and banking sectors. Issues such as project analysis and evaluation, joint ventures, privatization, accounting and auditing were also addressed in other workshops organized in 1991. Several training activities focused on the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises with a view to establishing linkages with transnational corporations.

66. Finally, study tours and fellowships were organized by the Centre for countries in the Africa and Asia and Pacific regions. These included training in investment appraisal and management, foreign investment negotiations and petroleum economics.

XII. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENt

67. The expenditures in 1991 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on technical cooperation are estimated at about $20 million.

68. These activities were funded mainly by UNDP. Funds-in-trust contributions have increased in 1991, due in particular to a significant allocation from Italy and contributions from other donors, particularly the Netherlands and Switzerland.

69. In the field of trade, activities have included advice and training on trade policies, on the generalized system of preferences (GSP), control of restrictive business practices/competition policies, trade negotiations (in particular, support to developing countries in the Uruguay Round negotiations), on the role of services sector in the economy, and on the transfer and development of technology. The new programme on human resources development in the trade sector, TRAINFORTRADE, began operations in 1991.

70. Work has continued to assist developing countries in the field of commodity policy, diversification, processing, marketing and distribution, including on the import of food commodities. A pilot phase of a new programme entitled MICAS (Micro computer based commodity information and analysis system) was launched in 1991.

71. In the field of financial resources, cooperation has continued in such areas as insurance and debt management. In this latter respect, an agreement was reached with the World Bank in 1991 on a joint programme to provide debt management technical cooperation services, to be co-sponsored by UNDP, UNCTAD and the World Bank.

72. A number of activities were initiated in 1991 to assist in the follow-up and implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s.

73. UNCTAD's Automated System of Customs Data (ASYCUDA), which has now been installed in more than 30 countries, has become UNCTAD's largest single technical cooperation programme. UNCTAD's database and software on trade control measures were improved in 1991, and work has started on integration of environmental measures related to trade in this package.

74. On both transport and transit/traffic issues, there was a particular focus on Africa through the three subregional projects aimed at improving the efficient management of the transport chain and facilitating the trade of land-locked countries. Technical cooperation continued in the fields of shipping services, and multimodal transport, including management of ports and training and human resource development in the maritime sector (TRAINMAR).

75. More information on UNCTAD's technical cooperation activities may be obtained from the annual report thereon (for 1990, see TD/B/WP/74). A complete report on UNCTAD's technical cooperation activities in 1991 will be available for review at the Working Party on the Medium Term Plan and Programme Budget of the Trade and Development Board, which is to meet in September 1992.

XIII. UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

76. For the biennium 1990-1991, the allocation of the environmental fund of the technical cooperation programme was $7.2 million, of which $3.7 million was allocated in 1990 and $3.5 million in 1991. Additionally, the Governing Council authorized the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), subject to availability of funds and upon consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to allocate a further amount of $35 million during 1990-1991 for supplementary activities. UNEP provided institutional support to several Governments, and provided services and fellowships to developing countries through its regional offices.

77. UNEP has been working in close cooperation with African Governments and NGOs together with other development agencies, in the implementation of necessary action, at the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment programme, in the area of energy and food security, and on such measures as the strengthening of environmental machineries, formulation of environmental action plans and programmes, introduction of programmes in the area of environmental education, training and public awareness, formulation and/or strengthening of environmental legislation.

78. UNEP is providing support for 24 projects under the Action Plan for the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, including the initial financing of the secretariat with the UNDP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.

79. Clearing-house activities were undertaken in Burundi, Guinea, Guyana, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda and Viet Nam. An important source for assistance in the environmental field to less developed countries, with which UNEP is cooperating through the clearing-house, is the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND). This programme has developed activities in Djibouti, Egypt, Sudan, Uganda, Bahrain, Yemen and Peru.

80. In 1991, the Industry and Environment Office (IEO) received over 900 queries. Technical assistance missions on industry/environment were carried out in Tunisia, Congo and China.

81. UNEP has provided, through its Environmental Law and Institutions Unit (ELIU), technical cooperation in the field of environmental legislation and institutions to the Governments of Benin, Ethiopia, Guyana, Mozambique, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Swaziland and the United Republic of Tanzania. Other countries for which arrangements are currently under way include Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Lebanon, Nigeria, Mongolia, Sudan, Lesotho, Malawi and Trinidad and Tobago.

82. UNEP provided assistance to the Governments of Yemen, Mongolia and Peru for the formulation of national plans to combat desertification. Support is also provided through joint undertakings with the United Nations regional commissions - ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP and ECLAC - to establish networks and mechanisms for mobilizing action for the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (UNPACD). Through the UNDP/UNEP joint venture, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO), is implementing UNPACD in Sudano-Sahelian countries and receives institutional and programme support of about $2 million per year. By the end of 1991, the programme of desertification control consisted of about 67 ongoing projects, with a total funding of over $100 million.

83. The international environmental information system, INFOTERRA, continued to promote national information infrastructures through the establishment of national INFOTERRA focal points in participating countries. One new regional service centre was established, resulting in a total of 11, and the number of special sectoral sources increased to 31. Two countries joined the INFOTERRA network bringing the total to 140. During 1991, over 19,800 inquiries from about 95 countries made use of the information services provided by INFOTERRA.